

STONE CURVES ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

We agree to cooperatively create a community that is ecologically sound and economically viable and that generates healthy relationships among the residents and with nature.

Stone Curves has the potential for becoming an environmentally appropriate residential community. It already has numerous characteristics that have an environmental or "green" compass heading:

- it is an infill development that intensifies an urban land use with a small footprint;
- it is highly energy efficient (insulation, orientation, appliances, water use, etc);
- non-or low-toxicity building materials and coatings are used wherever economically feasible;
- alternative paving materials will be used wherever feasible;
- landscaping will be xerophytic or low water use due to a **predominately native plant palette and habitat that harmonically integrates nature and people – infusing more water into the landscape (and aquifer) than is taken out;**
- **where common lawn and water intensive exotic fruit trees around this area exceed native palette low water usage, harvesting earthworks and mulch will be used to reduce these water needs and villages will be encouraged to stay within the native palette low water use range;**
- water harvesting and water flow management will of principle importance as the topography of the land is modified;
- community gardens will focus on organic produce;
- many facilities will be shared (laundry, cleaning accessories, tools, etc);
- the common house will provide for shared social and dining facilities for those who choose; and
- **light, noise, and air pollution will be minimized by an undulating periphery straw bale wall built on berms, by native landscaping to attract birds (and their songs) and as a buffer, and by common-wall condo construction.**

Additional compass headings can be established through individual and collective practice of these environmental "Rs".

Recycle, Reuse, Reduce: Recycling that includes composting and reuse of materials. Bulk purchasing and use of environmentally appropriate cleaning

materials, foods stuff, and supplies to reduce consumption. Working toward zero waste.

Resourcefulness & Respect: Developing wise use of natural resources – as well as human resources.

Re-discover & Re-educate: Fostering a sense of place within the Sonoran Desert for seven generations to come.

Re-imagining our understanding of the spiritual connection with the natural world and one another.

Regenerate the process of community. When we share a common ground – spiritually as well as physically - we can bring our diverse viewpoints to the outcome of each decision. Sustainability depends on reconciling economic, environmental, and social/spiritual interests to assure preservation of a diverse, self-regulating environment.

Result: we are likely to find ourselves celebrating the magic of our community and our place in a broader context.